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PHOTOELECTRIC MINIMA OF W UMa

V photoelectric observations were carried out with a 21 cm reflector at Skibotn on three nights in January and February 1977. A chopping photometer (Myrabø, 1977) was used to eliminate the variation of the sky brightness caused by the aurora (Skibotn: latitude $69^{\circ}22'$). The photometer was furnished with an EMI 9601 A photomultiplier tube and Schott filter GG 14. BD +56^o1399 was used as comparison star. The times of the minima are determined by the least squares method described by Kwee and van Woerden:

Minimum	J.D. Hel.	Phase interval
II	2443 155.5246±0.0004	0.12
II	157.1926±0.0004	0.12
I	183.3858±0.0003	0.10

The measurements were part of an investigation of photometric observations of stars in the auroral zone. During 1977 a new 50.8 cm telescope with a high-speed photometer will be installed. The long nights in winter at this high latitude where most of the sky is circumpolar favour variable star observations.

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Reference:

Myrabø, H.K. 1977, On stellar photometry in the auroral zone,
The Auroral Observatory, Tromsø, Report No.44-77